

3 August 1955

HQ USFA, AC of S, G2 (SSR/CIB) APO 168, US Army

Alleged US Citizens in Russian
Hands.

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ON 6/8/90
BY CDR USAINSCOM FOIPO
Auth Para 1-603 DoD 5200. 1-R

The following information concerning alleged US citizens has been furnished by Austrian ex-internees (USSR) recently returned to Austria:

SOURCE A.

✓ **FABIAN, James or Jimmy**, estimated year of birth 1917, 180 cm tall, weight approximately 50 kg, brown eyes, black hair, large red birthmark covered the right side of his face. FABIAN is reportedly single. He spoke Russian, English and German, and was working in a section for Displaced Persons in TSCHUBAI-NURA (phonetic spelling) located in KAZAKHSTAN, SSR, USSR. Source of this information stated that he had shared his food parcels with FABIAN and during conversations, Source received the following information: FABIAN was born in Chicago, Illinois where his parents presently reside. As a lieutenant in the US Army, FABIAN was a member of the Rainbow Division. In May 1948, returning from Prague, CZE, where he was checking on former German property, FABIAN and another officer, name and other details unknown, were arrested by the Russians in GUMERD, Russian Zone of Austria. They were taken to the Soviet Headquarters in GUMERD, Russian Zone of Austria. They were then separated. Here FABIAN was sentenced to 25 years for espionage and sent to various camps in OMSK, Omskaya Oblast, and GENGIR, location unknown. When Source met FABIAN in KARAGANDA, FABIAN was in good physical condition and was employed as a laborer on various construction details. FABIAN was still in the Camp TSCHUBAI-NURA (Postal Number MOSKVA 5110/38) when Source left for Austria in June 1955. Source stated that FABIAN allegedly had no contact with the United States. FABIAN was not permitted to write or receive letters. He asked Source to let the US authorities know his whereabouts. FABIAN did not receive any help from the West and was in desperate need of soap, sugar, and razor blades.

SOURCE B.

✓ **FENGERSCH, Michael**, estimated year of birth 1919, 186 cm tall, weight approximately 65 kg, black hair, scar on head which he allegedly received while trying to commit suicide in a Soviet prison at NEUNKIRCHEN, Austria. He is left-handed. His religion is Jewish. He was a former railroad worker. He is currently in poor mental health. He spoke English and a few words of German. He told Source that

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Commander-in-Chief, US Army, Europe, APO 403, US Army
Attn: AC of S, G2 (4)

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HQ USFA-G2 (1)

(15)

HQ USAF, AC of S, G2 (SOS/OTB) APO 168, US Army

3 August 1955

Alleged US Citizens in Russian
Hands (S)

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he was arrested by Czech authorities after he had crossed into Czechoslovakia some time in the summer or fall of 1948, allegedly to visit relatives residing somewhere in GALICIA, Poland. From FINGERSCH's confusing statements, Source gathered that the soldier was assigned somewhere in Germany prior to his crossing into the GSR. FINGERSCH was kept in a Prague Hotel for several months and then turned over to the Soviets in Austria where he was transferred to a prison in BADEN, Austria. After continuous interrogation by the Soviets, he was sentenced to 25 years for espionage.

SOURCE C.

FENOOS, Michael, estimated year of birth 1925, about 183 cm tall, weight about 60 kg, black hair, of Jewish religion. FENOOS spoke English and very poor German. He told Source that he was born in New York, and had served in the US Army in 1947 and 1948 in Germany. In 1948, he presumably deserted and crossed the Czech border because he wanted to see the western part of the USSR where his grandparents were born. FENOOS was arrested by Czech authorities. For several months he was kept in a hotel (name unknown) in Prague, GSR. After thorough interrogations he was turned over to the Soviet Forces in BADEN, Austria for additional interrogations. At times, FENOOS talked in a very incoherent manner and seemed to be in poor mental condition which he attributed to the beatings he had suffered during the Soviet interrogation in Baden, where he was sentenced to 25 years at hard labor for espionage.

SOURCE D.

✓ KUMISH, fnu, between 30-35 years old, 1.85 meters tall, dark hair. KUMISH told Source that he was a Sgt of the US Army and was arrested in Vienna, Austria in 1948. KUMISH was sentenced for espionage to 15 years in prison. Source saw KUMISH last in VLADIMIR, USSR, in January, 1955.

✓ PAKOV, fnu, or a name of similar sound. This man was about 23-25 years old, 1.65 meters tall, and had wavy brown hair. He deserted from his post in BERLIN in 1953. Source last saw PAKOV in June 1955 in PITO, USSR. PAKOV was sentenced to 15 years in prison for espionage.

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SOURCE E.

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NAGY, John or Johnny, about 30 years old, 180 cm tall, stout, blond, left leg missing, spoke German, Rumanian and Hungarian well, and spoke English poorly. He was sentenced for espionage. **NAGY** suffered from tuberculosis. Source was with **NAGY** in the prison of **MARGINENI** (Rumania) from February 1952 to September 1953. Source heard that **NAGY** died in 1954.

Father **PAVEL**, last name unknown, born in New York. His parents were probably Rumanians. **PAVEL** was about 30 years old, 170 cm tall, fairly stout, dark blond hair, and spoke Rumanian and English fluently. **PAVEL** was an Orthodox Rumanian priest. He came to Rumania (date unknown) for theological studies, and was sentenced for "high treason". **PAVEL** was transferred from **MARGINENI**, Rumania before Source left there in September 1953, exact date unknown, to an unknown destination. Source was with Father **PAVEL** from February 1952 to September 1953 in the prison of **MARGINENI**, Rumania.

SOURCE F.

YAN, fmu, about 40 years old, fair, slim build, and spoke English, German and Russian. Source did not know whether the name (**YAN**) was a nickname or an abbreviated forename. Source stated that the American arrived in July 1950, in the company of three (3) German prisoners at **CHELYABINSK** PW Camp, USSR. At the end of July 1950, Source moved with the American to **SHAKHTY** Camp, USSR, where the American remained until September 1950. While there, the American was tried for having taken part in the beating of a Russian guard and was sent to **ROSTOV** Prison, USSR. According to Source, the American, a Lieutenant, stated that after he was shot down over **EAST GERMANY** in 1945, the hospital in which he lay was captured by Soviet troops. From there the American was transported to the USSR, where he was condemned to 25 years of hard labor. His parents allegedly own a big farm or estate in New York State.

SOURCE G.

John, lnu, caucasian, approximately 26 to 28 years old, about 171 cm tall, weighs about 80 kg, light brown hair, gray eyes, heavy build, and well developed, healthy, former student born in New York, and spoke German and Russian fair. In conversations with John, Source learned that he had been arrested by the Soviets.

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3 August 1955

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Alleged US Citizens in Russian
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in BERLIN, Germany (date and reason unknown). John received packages from the United States regularly, and Source thought that some of them were from Germany. Source met John during internment in the area of POTMA (Mordovskaya ASSR) from November 1954 to July 1955. In early January 1955, John was transferred from the Camp near POTMA to another near MOSCOW, USSR. Before leaving, John bade Source farewell and said sadly that he never expected to be returned to the United States.

Harry (last name unknown), mulatto, approximately 26 to 28 years old, about 178 cm tall, weighs about 70 kg; kinky black hair, black eyes, thin, well-developed build, healthy, former student, born in the United States, exact place unknown to Source, and spoke Russian poorly. Source did not know when, where, or why Harry had been imprisoned by the Soviets but met him at the camp near POTMA in November 1954. Approximately one week after John who is mentioned above, had been transferred from the camp near POTMA, Harry was also transferred, according to rumor, to the same camp near MOSCOW where John, in January 1955, had been transferred.

Source also stated that while he was interned in forced labor camps in the area of TAYSHET (Irkutskaya O.) USSR, from August 1951 to October 1954, he was told by fellow-internees that "many" Americans were interned in the same area, but Source never saw any of this individuals.

SOURCE H.

American national, name unknown. Source met an American in the prison in KAZAN, Kirovskaya O. in May 1955. During conversations, and although both spoke poor Russian, Source learned the following: The American allegedly was an Engineer who had worked in the USSR for the past 15 years. Estimated year of birth 1910, 180 cm tall, weight about 60 kg, shaven hair, gray-blue eyes. On 23 May 1955, the American was taken to a MOSKVA prison. Source had the impression that the American was in poor mental condition. Source had no further information regarding the American.

Source reported that on 21 June 1955, when he was brought to the registration camp in POTMA, near MOSKVA, he met another US national, name unknown, estimated year of birth 1930, 175 cm tall, weight about 70 kg, brown hair, and brown eyes. During conversations, he told Source in poor German that he was a former member of the US Forces. Source did not know the rank held by the American. He told Source that in 1950, he was arrested in BERLIN, sentenced to 15 years for espionage. He was brought to POTMA as a laborer. He was in good physical condition. Source could furnish no further information concerning this American.

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3-44

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE
15 July 1955

PREPARING OFFICE

HQ USAF, AG of S, G2 (S&S/CIB) APO 168, NY NY

SUBJECT

Alleged US Citizens Imprisoned
in the USSR (C)

CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION

OF SOURCE:

COMPLETELY RELIABLE A
USUALLY RELIABLE B
FAIRLY RELIABLE C
NOT USUALLY RELIABLE D
UNRELIABLE E
RELIABILITY UNKNOWN F

OF INFORMATION:

CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES . . . 1
PROBABLY TRUE 2
POSSIBLY TRUE 3
DOUBTFULLY TRUE 4
IMPROBABLE 5
TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED . . . 6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

The following information concerning persons alleged to be US citizens, has been furnished by Austrian ex-internees in the USSR who recently have been returned to Austria:

BIZET (William?), born in 1910-1912 in the USSR. BIZET's name at birth was WASILJEVSKI, his father's name. During his imprisonment in the USSR, BIZET was referred to by his born name.

Source stated that BIZET was born in the USSR of Russian parents. Before World War I, BIZET and his mother immigrated to the United States and settled in California. His mother married Professor BIZET, professor of the University of San Francisco, who adopted BIZET and granted him his family name. Source stated that BIZET attended elementary school and high school in the United States, but did not know whether BIZET received any college education. Prior to World War II, BIZET was employed in San Francisco as a bank clerk. BIZET was married (wife's first name or maiden name unknown) and had a child.

Source described BIZET as approximately 168 cm tall, round-shaped head, a round face, and dark, wavy hair. Source was uncertain as to the color of BIZET's hair since the latter always had a crew cut. Source could recall no scars or outstanding features.

Source stated that BIZET was an exceptionally good comrade and a naturally friendly person. BIZET spoke the Russian language fluently and was able to engage in small transactions during his period of internment. BIZET was able to fulfill small wishes of both fellow-prisoners and Soviet guards. BIZET served as sanitary chief of the camp, and was in the position to misuse his office at the expense of other prisoners, but which BIZET never did. Whenever BIZET's fellow-prisoners were ill, he tried to assist them in his official capacity as sanitary chief. BIZET was especially helpful toward the non-Soviet prisoners.

BIZET co-operated with Soviet camp personnel only as far as was necessary to carry out his small transactions. BIZET definitely did not undertake any propaganda for the Soviets. Source firmly asserted that BIZET was not a Communist. BIZET entered no political discussions and appeared politically disinterested. Source did not believe that BIZET was interrogated by the Soviets.

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Alleged US Citizens Imprisoned
in the USSR (C)

(Cont.)

BIZET, other than for his position as sanitation chief, received the same treatment as other prisoners. The prisoners had no mailing privileges, nor were they permitted to receive mail.

Source stated that BIZET was taken prisoner by the Soviets in 1945 in Europe where he was serving with the US Navy on Sentry Patrol. Source believed that BIZET was an officer, probably a lieutenant.

Source was with BIZET in VORKUTA (6622N-7008E), P13 A2, from 1949 to 1953. This camp served those prisoners who were sentenced for various crimes. BIZET had received a sentence of eight (8) years, presumably in 1945, to forced labor from a military tribunal. In 1952, BIZET was transferred from P13 A2 because of an argument with a political Commissar. Source believed that he was sent to another camp in VORKUTA. Source further assumed that by now (1955), BIZET had already served his eight-year penalty and had probably been exiled to another part of the Soviet Union, since the Soviets had never recognized BIZET as an American citizen having been born in the USSR.

DICK, George, a soldier from New York, allegedly kidnapped in Berlin, Germany, currently held in Camp WALDIMER, USSR. The Source who reported this had no further details.

FEINGERSH, Michael, US citizen, 34 years old, Jewish, parents live in New York, formerly a sailor of the merchant navy.

A Source shared his prison cell in VERKHNI URALSK (near CHELYABINSK) with FEINGERSH from August 1952 to April 1953, when FEINGERSH left for an unknown location in Siberia. FEINGERSH had served with the US Army in Germany and in approximately 1943, deserted and traveled to PRAGUE (CSR) where he was arrested. He was given a 25-year prison term for alleged espionage. FEINGERSH was in good health, but Source believed he was slightly mad, and fond of alcoholic drinks. FEINGERSH was not allowed to correspond with his family. This Source could furnish no further details regarding FEINGERSH.

FEINGERSH, Moritz (?) US Citizen, 30 years old, from Brooklyn, New York, was arrested in 1948 or 1949 on Czech territory after he had deserted from the US Army in Germany. FEINGERSH was sentenced to 25 years for alleged espionage. This Source shared his cell with FEINGERSH from April 1951 to August 1951, in the Soviet Prison in NEUNKIRCHEN, Lower Austria. Source stated that another prisoner had told him (Source) that in May of 1955, FEINGERSH was imprisoned in ALEXANDROVSK, near Irkutsk, Siberia. This Source could furnish no further details regarding FEINGERSH.

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**Alleged US Citizens Imprisoned
in the USSR (C)**

(Cont.)

FINEGERSH, Mike, US citizen, from New York, about 35 years old, tall, slim, and slightly insane. No further details regarding FINEGERSH were known to this Source.

GABY, Sam, 1st lieutenant, US Army, 35 years old, 175 cm tall, slender, black eyes, black hair combed back, of Mexican or South-American type.

A Source was imprisoned in IRKUTSK, Irkutskaya Oblast from March 1953 until May of 1955. From September 1954 until December 1954, Source occasionally had short conversations in English and Russian with GABY. GABY asked Source to report "back home" that he (GABY) was a member of an American Military Police unit stationed in BERLIN, and that he was kidnapped by the Soviets while performing OD duties in 1948. GABY was sentenced to 25 years of prison, charges unknown to Source. GABY occasionally would curse a girl ("that god-damned girl"); details unknown.

Source spoke some English which he learned while employed as a kitchen helper for the US Forces in HEIDELBERG, Germany, from 1945 to 1947. Source was convinced that GABY's native tongue was English.

Source saw GABY only from September 1954 to December 1954, when both were detained in the same sector of the prison (solitary confinement; conversations during prison walks). GABY was, in contrast to the other prisoners, not forced to have his hair cut short; on the other hand, he was not permitted to write or to receive mail or packages.

GABY allegedly divulged his identity only to Source who told GABY that he had been employed with the US Forces.

JADOST, Stefan, from New York, formerly in Lattland, currently held in Camp VALDIMIR, USSR. No further details regarding JADOST are known to the Source.

KUMISH, M (?), US Army, presumed to be about 48 years old, allegedly turned over to Soviets in Vienna by a prostitute. No further details regarding KUMISH are known to the Source.

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Alleged US Citizens Imprisoned
in the USSR (C)

(Cont.)

MALINAUSKAS, Henry, about 36 years of age, 185 cm tall, very handsome, well mannered, and has good technical knowledge. MALINAUSKAS was reportedly born in LITHUANIA, and immigrated to the United States with his parents. Source advised that MALINAUSKAS visited relatives in LITHUANIA during World War II, where he was arrested by the Soviets and sentenced to 25 years from charges of alleged espionage. His uncle's address in the United States is S. VERERI, 105 Vine Street, STOKES, Massachusetts. MALINAUSKAS' address in the USSR for mail is USSR, Goral VORONKA, Box 175/Camp 62. His address for packages is USSR, MOSCOW, Box 5124/31.

MICHENETTY, Fran, allegedly Jewish, and an artist and night club entertainer who resided in MOSCOW before the Revolution and immigrated to the United States in 1946. He is currently held in Camp VLADIMIR, USSR. (No further details known to this Source.)

MILLER, Jack alias WANTER, currently held in Camp WALDIMER, USSR. No further details known to the Source.

MILLER von SEIDLITZ, about 28 years old, 1.7 meters tall, and fair-haired. A Source met Heinz MILLER von SEIDLITZ in INTA in 1952. Heinz is allegedly related to the family of von MANTEUFFEL. His mother was married in Philadelphia. The father was supposed to have a leading position in the German-American Society. Heinz was brought up in England and also was a guest pupil in Germany (NAFOLA) before World War II. At the end of the war, Heinz allegedly served on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific but saw no action. After the war, he served in BAVARIA in KRELS "C". His chief was a Mr. ROEMER. While Heinz was on his way to BERLIN, he left the prescribed route and was arrested in 1948. He was sentenced to 25 years. Source was not certain of Heinz' reliability and his alleged American citizenship.

SHERIDAN, H. (?), American soldier, kidnapped in 1949 in Germany, currently held in Camp WOREUTA, USSR. No further details are known to the Source.

SMITH, James, US Army officer from New York, allegedly kidnapped in Germany, currently held in Camp WOREUTA, USSR. No further details are known to the Source.

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Alleged US Citizens Imprisoned
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SPARKS, Sidney Ray, US soldier, from TREVILLE, Georgia, presently in POTOM, USSR. SPARKS allegedly was kidnapped in 1952 in BERLIN, and is reportedly starving since he has received no food packages to date. SPARKS has recently requested food packages. No further details are known to the Source.

WALLACE, William, G., from New York, allegedly an official from the US Legation in Bucharest, Rumania, currently held in Camp WALSH, USSR. No further details are known to the Source.

VUCZED, Maria, Drugian, married to an American named WALTER, Victor of San Francisco, a former lieutenant with GIC Vienna.

A Source, female, reported that she was imprisoned with VUCZED from August 1950 to October 1950 in NEUNKIRCHEN (Austria) and from October 1950 to December 1950 in LVOV (Ukrainian SSR). VUCZED was born about 1924 in BARCELONA (present name is DUBROVNIK, Yugoslavia).

VUCZED lived in Vienna IV, near the MAVAC radio station (exact address unknown); she supplied information to the American as well as to the Russian intelligence service. In 1949, VUCZED married the American named WALTER, Victor of San Francisco, who was then a lieutenant with the GIC in Vienna. On 3 September 1949, VUCZED was ordered to BARCELONA and arrested and sentenced to 15 years in prison. She was already in NEUNKIRCHEN, when Source came there in August 1950. VUCZED was transported with Source to LVOV in October 1950, and from LVOV they were transported to an unknown destination. Source requested that Victor WALTER be notified of the whereabouts of his wife.

WOLIN-KAMENOV, Victor, Andrejev, about 40 years old, born in RYLOVSK (KAZASH S.S.R.). A Source reported that this person escaped in 1917 to the United States, was later employed with an export-import firm in CHINA, and was sent by some Czarist movement to the USSR to collect information there. He was arrested in 1950 and sentenced to 25 years in prison for espionage. This person maintained that he was a US citizen and advised that his brother's address is MASHAROV, Peter, Grove Street (number unknown), San Francisco, California. WOLIN-KAMENOV's address in VOROKTA is USSR, MOSKVA, Box 5110/1. Source saw him in 1954 and for the last time in March, 1955.

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**Alleged US Citizens Imprisoned
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(Cont.)

John or Johany, DNU, estimated year of birth 1923, 185 cm tall, weighs about 80 kg; black hair, color of eyes unrecalled, athletic type, especially interested in boxing, speaks very poor German, and formerly resided in New York City, address unknown.

Source stated that he (Source) was interned in a special MVD Camp (June 1947) number and other details unknown, in ODESSA, where Source met John. Source could not recall John's last name. Source stated that John received food parcels and mail from his parents in New York City.

Source stated that in September 1939, at the outbreak of World War II, John and his parents resided in HAMBURG, Germany from where they tried to return to the United States. They succeeded to go to the Netherlands from where they returned to the United States, however, John remained behind. No reason for this separation could be given. Source had no knowledge concerning John's activities during World War II. John merely mentioned that he had been interned by the Germans. John was arrested in 1945 by the Red Army in the Russian Zone of Occupation in Germany, location unknown. John was accused of espionage and sent to the MVD Camp in ODESSA, where he remained after Source's departure in June, 1947. Source was later told by another fellow-prisoner that John had died of an unidentified throat ailment.

Source also reported that he had heard from a fellow-prisoner that an unidentified intoxicated US sailor had been arrested by MVD agents in ODESSA. He was taken to the MVD Camp from where he was sent after three (3) days of internment to an unknown destination. Source never saw this sailor and was therefore unable to furnish any other detailed information.

A Source reported that he had met a US citizen, name unknown, about 28 years old, small, in June 1955, in the separation camp in POTEM (MORDOVSKAYA ASSR). The American arrived there on 17 June 1955 from VORKUTA (KONTI ASSR). The American was allegedly kidnapped in BERLIN, Germany. Details unknown.

This same Source also reported that while in the transit camp in LVOV, Lvovskaya Oblast, in June 1949, that he had met and had spoken to an American fellow-prisoner, name unknown, about 27 years old, tall, fair hair, who had been arrested in VIENNA where he had served as a Sergeant of the US Marines. The American told Source that while in an intoxicated condition, he entered the Soviet Grand Hotel. The American was sentenced to 25 years for alleged espionage. No other details were known to the Source.

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**Alleged US Citizens Imprisoned
in the USSR (C)**

(Cont.)

A Source reported that in June 1955, while in the separation camp in Pory (Mordovskaya ASSR), he observed an American citizen, name unknown, born 1927 or 1929, who, he learned from other fellow-prisoners, was allegedly a soldier who had deserted to the Soviet Zone of Germany, and was later, for some offense, arrested and brought to the USSR. No other details were known to the Source.

A Source reported, that in July of 1952, he was in a transit camp in JNA about 40 km north of SICHENBAKOV (Yaroslavl'skaya Oblast) for a few days. There he observed about 12 alleged US citizens. Fellow-prisoners told the Source that most of them were journalists. Names or other details are unknown to the Source.

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